

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 08594 241020Z
ACTION EA-12

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-----098479 241123Z /16
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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6204

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EA ONLY

FOR AMBASSADOR MURPHY FROM CHARGE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDIP, RP
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR MURPHY'S ARRIVAL: MEDIA ASPECTS

1. SUMMARY. UPON ARRIVAL AT THE AIRPORT, THE MEDIA
WILL EXPECT YOU TO MAKE A FEW INFORMAL REMARKS. HERE-
WITH ARE SOME SUGGESTIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. A SMALL CONTINGENT OF FOREIGN AND LOCAL JOURNALISTS
WILL PROBABLY BE AT THE AIRPORT FOR YOUR ARRIVAL. VIP
ARRIVALS USUSALLY STIR SOME MEDIA INTEREST HERE. THERE
WILL LIKELY BE ADDITIONAL INTEREST IN YOUR ARRIVAL,
ESPECIALLY IN THE WAKE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT
AND THE PRESENT MOOD OF THE MEDIA TOWARD THE U.S., WHICH
IS BASICALLY UPBEAT.

3. MEDIA WILL EXPECT YOU TO MAKE A FEW INFORMAL REMARKS.
WE RECOMMEND YOU BE PREPARED WITH SOMETHING ALONG
FOLLOWING LINES: "IT IS A GREAT HONOR AND PLEASURE FOR
MY FAMILY AND ME TO BE HERE IN THE PHILIPPINES, A COUNTRY
WITH UNIQUE HISTORICAL TIES TO THE UNITED STATES.
VICE PRESIDENT MODALE, WHO VISITED MANILA A FEW WEEKS
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AGO, HAS TOLD ME SOMETHING ABOUT THIS BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY--
THE RENOWNED HOSPITALITY OF ITS PEOPLE, THE EXCITING
ADVANCES IN DEVELOPMENT, AND ITS ROLE IN THE IMPORTANT
ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS. I LOOK FORWARD
TO TAKING UP MY DUTIES, TO MOVING AHEAD ON THE RESOLUTION
OF SECURITY AND OTHER ISSUES, AND TO LENDING MY HAND TO
STRENGTHENING A RELATIONSHIP BASED ON MUTUAL INTEREST

AND RESPECT." YOU SHOULD ALSO BE PREPARED TO ANSWER TWO OR THREE QUESTIONS. THE BASES, ECONOMIC RELATIONS, AND HUMAN RIGHTS ARE LIKELY TOPICS TO BE RAISED. ALL OF THIS WOULD TAKE PLACE AT VIP LOUNGE VERY NEAR PLANESIDE.

4. WE PLAN TO HAVE ICA COVERAGE BUT, UNLESS YOU THINK OTHERWISE, DO NOT CONSIDER IT NECESSARY TO ISSUE "ARRIVAL STATEMENT."

5. AS NOTED EARLIER YOU WILL PROBABLY BE MET AT THE AIRPORT BY DIRECTOR OF PROTOCOL, RAFAEL ("RALPH") GONZALES. AMBASSADOR GONZALES IS A CAREER DIPLOMAT WITH PARTICULAR EXPERIENCE IN CHINESE AFFAIRS, HAVING SERVED AS CONSUL GENERAL IN HONG KONG AND MINISTER IN PEKING. WE HAVE FOUND HIM COOPERATIVE AND EFFICIENT. HE WAS A GREAT HELP TO US IN PREPARING FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT.

6. NOTE EA ONLY CAPTION. TOUSSAINT

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